CBI raids on the premises of Government Officers

2718. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Enforcement and the CBI have recently raided the premises of various Government officials and have found unaccounted assets, cash and other wealth, if so, what are the names of the officials; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that when other economic offenders like excise Customs Duty, Income Tax, Wealth Tax and other revenue evaders are raided, their names prominently appear in news papers while the names of the Government Officers who are involved in similar or more serious offences are not divulged, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The CBI conducted searches on 24.2.87 in residential/office premises of 36 officials of Government/Public Sector Undertakings, in connection with the cases registered by them. It would not be in public interest to disclose the names of the officials.

(b) No publicity is given by Government Departments to the names of persons whose premises are raided. The news papers reports may be based on their own sources.

Criticism of CSIR by the Abid Hussain Committee

2719. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Abid Hussain Committee appointed by Government, has, in its report, criticised the functioning of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what action Government propose to take on the report;

(d) what action was taken on the earlier reports of Committees headed by Justice (Retired) Sarkar and Dr. Mudaliar, to improve the functioning of CSIR; and

(e) whether Government are satisfied with the working of the national laboratories of CSIR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Some aspects of CSIR's functioning came up for criticism.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Committee are being examined by the Government.

(d) The recommendations of Review Committee, headed by Sir A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, pertaining *inter alia* to the flexibility in functions of CSIR, relations with other Departments including Research Organisations, constitution of panels of Experts, utilization of indigenous research and technical knowhow, formation Research Associations, setting up of technical services unit at CSIR etc. were implemented.

The recommendations of Sarkar Committee pertaining to re-defining the objectives of the CSIR, reconstitution of the Society/Governing Body of CSIR, setting up of Technical Secretariat at CSIR, grouping of Laboratories, constitution of Executive Committees of the Laboratories, setting up of new Regional Research Laboratories, Evaluation of internal and external research programmes formulation of guidelines for royalty and consultancy and decentralization of authority etc. were implemented.

(e) There is always scope for improving the performance of any organisation and the Government would like CSIR to provide further S & T inputs for national development.